

**VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
SEPTEMBER 6, 2016 MEETING**

**SPY POND COMMITTEE
Town Hall Annex, First Floor**

In attendance: Brad Barber, Bill Eykamp, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Steve Ricci, Stroker Rogovin, Cheryl Miller, Agnes O'Donnell

Facilitator: Brad Barber

Minutes: Agnes O'Donnell

2016 meetings: usually 7:30 p.m. first Tuesday, Town Hall Annex, first floor.

The first Tuesdays in 2016 are: Jan. 5, Feb. 2, March 1, April 5, May 3, June 7, July 5, Aug. 2, Sept. 6, Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6.

- The June 2016 meeting was the group's barbecue dinner, and no minutes were taken.
Asian clams, first appearing in 2015 and also seen in other lakes, have become numerous on the south edge of the pond. Discussed the possibility of finding a natural predator or harvesting them with quahog rakes.
- Preparations for Town Day were discussed. To be included were a poster with photos of activities on the pond, and a demonstration of a secchi disk, and an exhibit of Engleman's sedge, with committee members staffing the booth to greet and explain activities.
- Discussion of the low pond level notes that it remained at about 11 cm all summer, after being dropped from the usual 40 cm to 30 cm to facilitate treatment of algae. Brad described some covering he installed on the boards of the outflow to help retain water.
- The development issue of 47 Spy Pond Lane was discussed. It was noted at a Conservation Commission meeting that the developer did not have plans, that the Con Comm can push back from the 50 foot frontage line requirement, and that Arlington does not have a subdivision law, only the restriction of 6,000 feet square feet in a dwelling.
- Engleman's Sedge is now profuse at the marsh and at Brad's shore, doing well without competition in the wet sand that the lower pond level has created.
- Regarding water quality, filamentous algae are very persistent this year. John Durant of Tufts University described the high concentration of nutrients and the presence of milfoil, coontail, and filamentous algae as being all tied together.
- Brad has been removing loosestrife in and near the marsh on the south end.
- During the summer, Northern Pike, two muskrats, one weasel, and the family of swans with four signets were seen, along one or more Great Blue Herons.